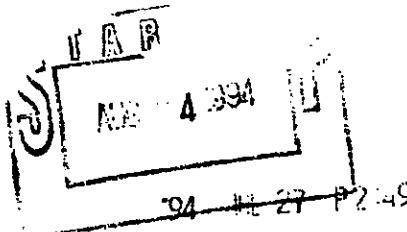


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United States Department of State

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RELEASED IN FULLWashington, D. C. 20520
July 27, 1994**CONFIDENTIAL**
DECL: OADR**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM** *for me*
S/S

TO: The Secretary

THROUGH: P - Mr. Tarnoff

FROM: IO - Douglas J. Bennet *WTC*

SUBJECT: UK to Announce Participation in UN Rwanda Peacekeeping Operation

SUMMARY

The British Embassy has informed us that Her Majesty's Government will announce tomorrow British participation in UNAMIR, the UN peacekeeping operation in Rwanda. The UK is seeking U.S. airlift for its heavy equipment.

DISCUSSION

Subject to the virtually certain approval by British ministers today, the British will begin next week to deploy about 250-300 men to Kigali. The contingents, wearing blue helmets, will be:

- An electrical and mechanical engineers workshop, of 50-60 men, to maintain 50 four-ton, four-wheel drive trucks.
- An engineering squadron, of about 200 men, with heavy equipment.
- A field ambulance unit.

The UK is seeking airlift from the U.S. for the trucks and heavy equipment. They believe that one C-5 a day for one week would be necessary. The British are pursuing this with OSD.

The Cabinet meeting today will be acting on the basis of the assessment by Lady Chalker, who was in Rwanda in the last few days.

The British embassy tells us that the British move is also the result of the American example in facing up to the humanitarian crisis.

British participation in UNAMIR ought to stimulate others to speed their contributions. For the last few weeks, the expansion of UNAMIR has been dead in the water.